Mr. M. VENKATESA IYENGAR.—No. Most of the schools have the minimum equipment necessary, but Government are aware that equipment needs improvement.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA.—Out of the 330 middle schools which exist at present, how many are situated in rural areas?

Mr. M. VENKATESA IYENGAR.—Notice.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA.—Within the past 10 years how many new middle schools have been started?

Mr. M. VENKATESA IYENGAR.—The number has increased largely; I cannot give the exact number off-hand.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA.—Are the Government aware that there are no middle schools at all in some hoblis?

Mr. M. VENKATESA IYENGAR.—Yes.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina S. P. Rajagopalachari).—During our tours we have been receiving representations for increasing the number of middle schools, and we have been providing funds for the purpose to the extent possible.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA.—How many new schools can be opened with the help of the extra Rs. 12,000 provided in the budget for next year?

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI.—If more money becomes available, more will be provided.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA.—Is the sum of Rs. 12,000 provided in the budget meant for increasing the number of middle schools or for increasing the number of teachers.

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI.—That is meant for increasing the number of schools.

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA.—Have Government taken any decision that in future a fixed number of new schools ought to be opened each year?

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI.—No. The number to be opened in any year depends upon the budget position of that particular year.

Mr. V. VENKATASAMI CHETTY.—Incomplete middle schools in several interior parts of the State have been abolished. And the number of complete middle schools existing at present are both few and far between. In Kolar District particularly, want of accommodation in middle schools is felt very keenly. Will the Government be therefore pleased to see that at least one incomplete middle school is opened in each hobli?

Mr. S. P. RAJAGOPALACHARI.—We will consider whether the number of middle schools in the Kolar District can be increased in the near future.

Swearing in of Members.

The following members then made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to His Highness the Maharaja and took their seats:—

1. Mr. R Sutramdas, C. and M. Station, Bangalore.
2. Mr. S. Kariappa, Kankanhalli.
3. Mr. B. Sitaramiah, Hiriyur.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—BILLS—*concld.*

III. General Principles of the Bill to amend the Mysore Town Municipalities Regulation, 1933—*concld.*

Mr. T. MADIAH GOWDA, in opposing the measure, observed that it sought to cut at the very root of the principle of local self-government. The Town Municipalities Regulation had been in force for a long number of years and in their reviews on the administration reports, the Government themselves had acknowledged the good work done by many of the self-governing institutions and had also recorded their appreciation of the progress shown by them. For some time past more and more of educated and experienced men were coming forward to participate in the work of municipal councils. Under such circumstances, it was the duty of Government to induce such men to continue to take interest in municipal affairs. There was no reason for the Government to think that municipal councils or non-official Presidents thereof would defy the authority of Government in regard to the appointment of proper men as Chief Officers. So long as municipalities were called self-governing institutions, it was but right

that they should be given unfettered control and authority over all their officers. Instead of giving the municipalities additional powers, the bill under discussion sought to withdraw even the powers and privileges already conferred on them under the Regulation of 1933. In his opinion there was no justification for such an attempt on the part of Government.

The Second Member had stated that municipalities were at a disadvantage to know who would be the best possible men for appointment as Chief Officers. The speaker did not agree that it was so. He agreed, however, that municipalities might be unable to transfer, even after many years, Chief Officers whom they once appointed and that even if they proposed to do so, other councils to which these officers might be proposed to be posted might not agree. But then, there was nothing to prevent municipal councils from appointing Chief Officers for only a stated number of years on a tenure basis. If the Government agreed at least to a suggestion like this, they would be helping to enhance the prestige of the municipal councils. There was nothing to prevent the Government from taking necessary action against councils which did not control their Chief Officers effectively. But, if the Government interfered with the powers of all the municipal councils, the inevitable result would be conflict of interest as between the Municipal Presidents and Chief Officers, because the former naturally would be anxious to exercise their powers and privileges consistent with the interests of the councils concerned, and the latter would be more anxious to carry out the instructions received from the Government and to look to them for their prospects. This, in the speaker's opinion, would not help matters. It was therefore best that Chief Officers were allowed to be appointed by municipal councils so that without the possibility of a hitch at any time they could carry out the wishes and instructions given by Municipal Presidents and councils.

Mr. MIR MAHOMED SAHIB thought that the apprehensions of the members who had spoken on this bill so far were more imaginary than real. He did not see any ground for opposing the measure. For this reason he supported it.

Mr. T. SIDDALINGIAH observed that, as in the case of the establishment of the Representative Assembly, so also in the case of the constitution of the municipal councils, the prime object of the Government in the past had been to associate non-officials in increasing numbers with local administration and ultimately with the central government. But, for some time past, the Government were consistently, though not always noticeably, withdrawing the powers once given to non-officials. If the Government continued to do so, a time would soon arrive when local self-governing institutions would be divested of all power and prestige. The Model State of Mysore was already found to fall short of democratic standards compared with the other countries of the world. The Dewan himself, in his several speeches and addresses, was preaching democratic ideals, but in actual practice he initiated or at least countenanced proposals seriously interfering with the powers and privileges of self-governing institutions. The Dewan must have been personally aware of a number of cases in which Chief Officers, being officials appointed by the Government, were not too earnest about giving effect to resolutions passed by local bodies. Virtually therefore the councils were at the mercy of their own executive. Even in the case of small improvement works in village panchayets, only such of the resolutions as were inspired by local revenue officials had the chance of being passed by a majority. It would be a thousand pities if this became the general case with town and city municipalities also. Non-official workers were feeling the need for the withdrawal of all official domination over local self-government institutions. At such a time, it would be most regrettable if Government attempted to withdraw the little power or privilege at present vested in the hands of such workers. Even at present the municipal councils were not being allowed to exercise the little power and privilege vested in them under the Regulation, but in the bill under reference

the Government were seeking to make their position still worse. The Government must definitely make up their mind either to enhance the prestige of municipal councils and councillors, including Presidents, by giving them additional powers and privileges or withdraw once for all, by bold and straight legislation, all the powers and privileges vested in them. With these remarks, he opposed the measure.

Mr. D. VENKATARAMANAPPA who also opposed the measure said that municipal councils at present had very little power to exercise either on the executive side or financially or otherwise. Even in the case of the appointment of Chief Officers, the procedure adopted at present was for the Government to suggest a panel of names and for the municipality concerned to select one of the persons suggested in the panel. This was a very small privilege exercised by municipal councils, and it would be unfortunate if even that was taken away by the Government.

Mr. K. VENKATASWAMIAH did not agree with the Government that the proposed arrangement would make for efficiency of work in municipal councils. He would have had no objection if the Government had stated that the measure was proposed in the interests of expediency. In regard to the appointment of Chief Officers, as in fact in many other matters, power *de facto* vested only in the Government and what the municipalities had was only power *de jure*. He did not understand why the Government were anxious to withdraw even such power. He did not see why the Government should appoint Chief Officers to municipalities instead of leaving the matter to be discussed and decided by the municipal councils themselves. Perhaps, he thought, it was due to the fact that a number of persons, borne on the Amildari or Deputy Amildari list, could not be readily accommodated and the Government had found the municipal councils a convenient berth for accommodating the officials for a time. This suspicion was practically confirmed by the fact that Chief Officers once appointed by Government were soon withdrawn from the concerned municipal councils. His experience of the Municipal Council of Nanjangud went to show that no Chief Officer was allowed to remain in one and the same place for more than a few months. Naturally these officers would not trouble to take interest in the work of the municipal councils to which they were attached. They would be merely counting days, ever on the look out for the first possible opportunity to go out as Amildars or Deputy Amildars. If the same state of affairs continued for some years, progress would come to a standstill in all municipal councils, and the very scheme of local self-government would practically come to an end. In this view, he requested Government to withdraw the measure.

Mr. Madihalli SIVABASAPPA observed that it would not conduce to smooth and efficient work in municipal councils if their Chief Officers were appointed by an outside agency. If these officers went their own way, it would be impossible for the Presidents as well as the councillors to put up with them. Conflict would thus arise and work in the councils would not progress. It would not also do if both the Government and the municipal councils tried to exercise control over a Chief Officer. It was best that the Chief Officer was altogether under the control of the municipal council.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau) said that it was a mistake to suppose that Government would control the actions of Chief Officers appointed to municipal councils. The control that was contemplated was disciplinary control, with regard to appointment, emoluments and service questions generally. He requested the House to understand the statement of general principles in the light of this explanation.

Continuing, **Mr. SIVABASAPPA** said that very often it might be quite unnecessary for municipal councils to appoint Chief Officers. Instead of spending their money on such officers, it would be more useful if the councils spent the amount for improving the towns. In this view, he also requested the Government to withdraw the bill

Mr. TIPPU SULTAN ALI KHAN strongly supported the measure. From the speeches so far made in opposition to the measure, he was able to see that some of the members of the House had misunderstood the objects of the measure. He appealed to them to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of the bill before making up their minds to vote either for or against it. In his own opinion, the bill would help local self-governing institutions considerably. Municipal councils appointing Chief Officers would be bound to keep them on till their age of superannuation, whether or not the officers were efficient. This certainly would not make for a satisfactory position. On the other hand, if the municipal councils agreed to Government making the appointments, they would be free at any time to request the Government to take back inefficient Chief Officers and to give better men instead. In the Mysore City Municipality itself, for example, the municipal council had been unable to transfer or otherwise deal with its Chief Officer until recently because the appointment had been made by the council itself. Consequently, heavy arrears had accumulated and the officer was not very anxious to collect them; because he was sure that he could not be disturbed by the council. Recently, however, a Chief Officer had been appointed for the council by the Government, and in view of the possibility of a transfer or other punishment in the event of proved inefficiency, he was already showing good work and the council had every reason to thank the Government for the appointment. The speaker also wanted the House to remember that if a municipal council had its own Chief Officer, the Government could afford to be indifferent about the financial and other interests of the council, whereas, if the Government themselves appointed the Chief Officer, they would feel it a duty of theirs to interest themselves in the work of the municipal council and to see that the Chief Officer appointed by them acquitted himself well. This, surely, would be a definite gain to the municipal council. For these reasons, he appealed to the House to unanimously accept the principles of the proposed measure.

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA said that the House would not thank the Government for having proposed the amendment under discussion. He was unable to understand what exactly the policy of the Government was in regard to local self-government. For, the Government on the one hand were pleading for hearty co-operation from non-officials and on the other withdrawing even the meagre powers so far allowed to be enjoyed by the local self-governing institutions. He was also unable to understand why the amendment under discussion had been proposed at all. Government had not shown how the occasion had arisen for withdrawing the powers of the municipal councils. The House had not even been told whether Chief Officers appointed directly by municipal councils had generally proved to be inefficient and whether those appointed by Government were always efficient. So long as it was competent for municipal councils to appoint Chief Officers of their own, under Section 209 of the Regulation, he did not know how the Government could justifiably prevent municipal councils from exercising that power. In other words, the action which the Government had so far taken in this direction was illegal. Instead of adjusting their action so as to conform to law, they had proposed, in the measure under discussion, to alter the law itself so as to conform to their action. He was both surprised and sorry that this should have happened. The only inference he could draw from amendments like this was that Government were anxious to wrest from non-officials the little scope they had for associating themselves with the Government. It looked as though much was being made by the Government of considerations of efficiency, because it had been said that the proposed measure would make for efficiency in the work of the councils. He did not believe that efficiency depended so much upon the appointing authority as on the appointee himself. He also did not know why the Government should be so

anxious to have control over a Chief Officer so long as he was expected to do the work of a municipal council.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU, interrupting, repeated that the control which Government proposed to have was not over the particular officials appointed as Chief Officers but over the appointments themselves. The only control Government would have over the Chief Officers would be in respect of the method of their recruitment, the conditions of their service, their pay, conduct, etc.

Mr. H. M. CHANNABASAPPA, proceeding, said that in the absence of definite information that most of the Chief Officers appointed by municipal councils had proved to be incompetent, it was not possible for the House to agree to Government taking over the power of appointing Chief Officers in all cases. In this view, he vehemently opposed the measure.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU said that he did not know whether the members wanted that the appointments should be made by the municipal councils subject to the approval of the Government. That was all that could be claimed if the interpretation placed on the existing provision of the law by some members were conceded to be correct. At the same time he wanted the House to remember the other view that even at present the Government had the power not only of directing the appointment of a Chief Officer but also of making the appointment. Unless Government had such a power, it might not be possible for a municipal council to secure the services of a person working in some other department of Government or in some other municipality without prolonged correspondence. That was why it was proposed that Government should take all necessary action and post the best possible person to work under the municipality. In other words, the Government would hold all the necessary consultations on behalf of the municipal councils concerned.

At this stage, Mr. B. L. BYANNA enquired whether it was proposed to altogether do away in future with the system of sending a panel of names to the municipal council to enable it to select one of the men suggested for appointment as Chief Officer.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU replied that there was no such general procedure followed in all cases.

Mr. PRESIDENT added that even this practice would mean some inconvenience.

Mr. E. HANUMANTHARAYAPPA also spoke against the measure. He was unwilling to support any proposal to withdraw the powers and privileges of municipal councils unless in at least a majority of cases these bodies had proved themselves unable to exercise their responsibilities satisfactorily.

Mr. MIR MAHOMED HUSSAIN thought that the Government must have proposed the measure with the best of intentions. He knew as a matter of fact that the work of village panchayets, for example, was generally very unsatisfactory and this was because the village panchayets had no official element in it. In particular, collection work was done very perfunctorily, and even with pressure from the Amildars, these bodies were not anxious to show improvement. Similarly, collection and other work were not going on efficiently in a good many municipalities. The position would certainly improve if the Government appointed Chief Officers to all of them. In this view he had great pleasure in supporting the measure.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA vehemently opposed the measure. He was sorry that within four years from the date of amending the Town Municipalities Regulation, the Government were proposing to withdraw from non-official Presidents and councils certain powers and privileges which were already enjoyed by them. He was sorry that a Model State should be thinking of such a retrograde measure. In his Opening Address to the Assembly, the Dewan had hoped that there would be no occasion for acute differences of opinion between the Government and the non-official representatives of the people. But the measure under discussion unfortunately proposed to withdraw from the non-official

representatives of the people the little powers and privileges that had been vested in them. It would therefore be the unhappy duty of the non-officials to differ from the Government. In fact, every self-respecting member of the House felt bound to oppose the measure. He was sorry that Government were seeking to reduce Municipal Presidents and councillors into mere tools in their hands. If the measure was adopted, it was certain that Chief Officers of municipal councils would in future never care for Municipal Presidents. It was impossible for the speaker to support the action of Government. He hoped that the Government would withdraw the measure and never again think of interfering with the powers of local self-governing institutions.

NAWAB SHER KHAN agreed with one of the previous speakers that the House had generally misunderstood the intentions of the proposed measure. The appointment by Government of Chief Officers would not amount, in his opinion, to an encroachment upon the powers of the local self-governing institutions. Municipal councils were important non-official bodies and a considerable amount of responsibility attached to them. For discharging such duties, the councils certainly needed the assistance of a responsible officer of Government. If the appointment of a Chief Officer vested altogether in the municipal council, the President thereof might possibly be influenced by the more important members of the council while selecting a particular person for appointment. Instead of that, it was certainly advisable for the municipal councils to agree to the present proposal which amounted to a sort of provincialisation of the service so that the Government might at any time be able to give to the councils the services of the best available person. It was a matter of common knowledge that in village panchayets, for example, work was practically at a standstill for want of technically qualified men to carry it out.

With regard to the question of powers and privileges of municipal councils, the Second Member had already satisfied the House that it was not proposed to exercise control over the particular individuals appointed as Chief Officers and in the light of this assurance, he thought that the House should accept the proposed amendment.

He did not agree that if the House accepted the general principles of the bill, municipal councils would in future be helpless even in cases where Chief Officers went their own way, defying the authority of either the municipal councils or the Presidents. As in British India, these councils would certainly continue to be at liberty to pass votes of no-confidence or censure against erring Chief Officers. If such votes were passed by a stipulated majority of the council, surely the Government would transfer or otherwise punish such officers and give better men as Chief Officers. Simply because the Government made the appointments, it would not stand to reason if the Assembly or the municipal councils alleged that work would not go on smoothly. In the school boards, for example, the chief executive officials were being appointed by the Government and yet the work was going on smoothly. In this view he thought it advisable to accept the proposed measure.

Mr. R. P. RAJANNA, in further supporting the measure, stated that it would ultimately be found to be a blessing not only to town municipalities but also to city municipalities. He would have been more glad if a similar measure amending the District Boards Regulation also had been proposed. In a great many cases, the local bodies including District Boards were not progressing satisfactorily on account of the fact that most of the non-official Presidents or Vice-Presidents happened to be merchants without much time to devote for the work of the bodies. Particularly in cases where the Presidents or Vice-Presidents and the members were engaged in trade, there was reason to suppose that the collection under octroi was bound to be unsatisfactory. The case would certainly be otherwise if there were Chief Officers attached to the local bodies.

Mr. N. CHANNAPPA objected to the remarks of the previous speaker as

amounting to an aspersion against the non-officials who were doing honorary work, very often satisfactorily.

Mr. R. P. RAJANNA said that he spoke from long experience and could not help expressing things as he had found them.

Mr. J. ASWATHANARAYANA RAO opposed the measure. He said that Section 209 of the Town Municipalities Regulation unfortunately gave room for doubts in respect of the appointment of Chief Officers by the Government. And in spite of protests from municipal councils, the Government had exercised that power in some cases. Having done it in a few cases, they now proposed to amend the law itself so as to have that power exclusively in their own hands. Instead of doing so, he felt that it would be well if the Regulation was amended so as to clear all doubt and vest the power exclusively in the hands of municipal councils. While amending the Regulation, Government would do well to see how best it could be improved in other respects also. For example, the Regulation spoke of the duties and responsibilities not merely of non-official Presidents and Vice-Presidents but also of Chief Officers. But a perusal of the sections themselves would go to show that beyond the privilege of presiding at meetings of the municipal councils, the non-official Presidents and Vice-Presidents had absolutely no powers whatever. They were therefore already smarting that there was very little for them to do. At such a time, it would be unfortunate if the Chief Officers were appointed by Government themselves since in all such cases the non-official Presidents would be relieved of all executive functions.

Referring to the assurance from the Second Member that control over Chief Officers would vest only with the municipal councils, except in regard to service questions, he said that it might not be expected that a Chief Officer, so long as he was appointed by Government, would always care to carry out the instructions of the Municipal President. It was his experience that in cases where Chief Officers had been appointed, the councillors were generally unable to help the general public even in regard to small matters whereas in other cases they could be of some real benefit to their constituents. For these reasons he suggested that Government should take some time to consider whether it was at all necessary to appoint Chief Officers in all cases and whether, if they were appointed, the municipal councils alone should bear all the cost on account of the salaries, etc., of such officers.

Mr. B. MARULAPPA, who also opposed the measure, regretted that Government were slowly withdrawing the already meagre powers and privileges enjoyed by local bodies. He did not believe that measures like this would make for harmonious relations between the Government and the non-official public. If at all the Regulation was amended, he suggested that it must be with the object of giving increased powers and privileges to non-officials.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO also spoke to the same effect.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR further opposed the measure. He was willing to believe that Government had been actuated by *bona fide* motives in suggesting the amendment under consideration. But he appealed to them to remember that if a Chief Officer was appointed to any municipal council by Government themselves, there would be practically no work for the non-official councillors and the Presidents. Section 209 of the Town Municipalities Regulation gave room for a doubt as to whether the municipal councils alone should appoint Chief Officers. But through the bill under discussion, Government had sought to remove the doubt by definitely taking away from the municipal councils the power of making the appointments. This was a step to which the House could not agree. Secondly, the Chief Officer would become the chief executive official of the municipal council in case the measure was carried. This meant that all power would concentrate in his hands and the municipal council would have simply to be led by him in practically all matters. Such a position would be hardly consistent with the self-respect of the local self-government bodies. In the third place,

a question of principle would arise in connection with this amendment, namely, whether there would be any justification in the Government asking the municipal councils to meet the salary, etc., of Chief Officers appointed by Government. The Chief Officer could be a servant of either the Government or the council. If it was the former, there was no reason for the latter to meet his pay. If it was the latter, there was no reason for the former to make his appointment. The speaker hoped that nobody would doubt that the Chief Officer, at least for the time being, was a servant of the municipal council and it was but right that the municipal council itself should make the appointment. Just as officers of Government would not agree to their subordinates being appointed by some outside agency, a municipal council could not be compelled to take work from officials whom they themselves did not appoint. If the Government appointed a Chief Officer, it might well be expected that he would not be over-anxious to respect the wishes and resolutions of the municipal council. It was all very well for the Government to say that whenever Chief Officers acted contrary to the wishes and resolutions of municipal councils, the councils might pass a vote of no-confidence and get the officers transferred or otherwise punished. But as a matter of fact, it was not easy for all the councillors to agree on the point and pass a resolution of no-confidence by the stipulated majority. When such a majority could not be secured, the only way open to a municipal council would be to represent to the Government that its Chief Officer was not acquitting himself well and should therefore be withdrawn. But then the question would be whether the Government would pay due weight to such representations. As a matter of fact, situations like that had arisen in the past in Bangalore City, but it was well known that Government took no action on the representations of the council. It might be that in a few happy exceptional cases Chief Officers would earnestly try to co-operate with the municipal councils and try to do good to the general public as far as they could. But in such cases the Government might take the earliest possible opportunity of transferring the officers to some other place.

It looked as though the Government were anxious to get the amendment passed as that would enable them to shove on the local bodies officers who were unwanted in their own departments. If such officers were thrust on municipal councils, it would be hardly fair to expect the councils to accept them as their executive heads. Nor would the proposed amendment be welcome to the Chief Officers themselves. Because they would find it hard to serve and please two masters at the same time. They would in fact find themselves in a dilemma, in cases of differences of opinion between the municipal councils and the Government, as to whether they should carry out the wishes of the one or the other. Meanwhile the work of the councils would suffer, and the arrangement would do nobody any good. If it was not true that Government wanted to shove unwanted officials on local bodies, taking advantage of the amendment under discussion, then, it was not clear why the Government should be so anxious to have the power of appointing Chief Officers to all municipal councils. On the other hand, if the object of the Government was only to ensure efficient working of the councils, they could as well secure that object by merely pointing out to them that work in particular directions was not progressing satisfactorily and that the councils should show improvement. He did not believe that any municipal council was over-anxious to disobey instructions of Government or to defy suggestions given by them. If at all, the councils were guilty of respecting instructions and suggestions even in cases where the Government were not fully justified in issuing them. It now looked as though the local bodies had committed a sin by carrying out the wishes and suggestions even in such cases, because the Government were taking undue advantage of such a friendly attitude on the part of local bodies and trying to tie down the councils to the same procedure. He

would appeal to the Government not to adopt such an attitude as that would falsify the hopes they were entertaining and shake the respect they were showing for the Government. In this view he requested the Government to withdraw the bill.

Proceeding, he referred to the observation made by one of the previous speakers that Chief Officers, if appointed direct by the local bodies, would have to be kept on in service till their age of superannuation, because the officers could not be transferred to other local bodies, and said in reply to that observation that there would be no such difficulty if only the Government made the appointments of Chief Officers interchangeable. In conclusion, the speaker referred to the hope expressed by the Dewan in his Opening Address that there would be perfect amity and concord between the Government on the one side and the non-official public on the other, and said that if that hope was genuine the Government would see that the measure under discussion was withdrawn since the House was opposed to it almost unanimously.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU, in reply to the debate, said that Government had not expected that there would be so much of discussion on such a simple bill as this. From the discussions it looked as though there was a considerable amount of misunderstanding on the part of the members of the aims and objects of the proposed amendment. The main point involved had receded to the background and questions like the prestige of local bodies, the need for the appointment of Chief Officers, etc., had engaged the greater part of the time of the House. It was certainly not proposed to withdraw any of the essential privileges enjoyed by local self-governing institutions at the present time. The chief point to be borne in mind was that certain municipal councils had to have Chief Officers. It might be that the President or Vice-President of a municipal council who was a non-official could not possibly attend to all the work of the council. If this was so, the council might well ask for the appointment of a Chief Officer. In other cases where such a request was not made, the Government themselves might think of making the appointment. The bill made no departure from the procedure which was already in vogue in this respect. What generally happened was, where a council on its own initiative or at the instance of Government resolved to appoint a Chief Officer, either a Sanitary Inspector or other local official would be promoted as a Chief Officer, or the Government would transfer some other person and post him as Chief Officer. In future, too, that procedure was not proposed to be altered. It was not correct to say that the power of appointing Chief Officers was given for the first time by the Regulation of 1933. It had been provided for even under the Regulation of 1906. In pursuance of these provisions, the Government had been making the appointments in the interests of efficiency and expeditious work. The legality of these appointments was unquestioned for many years. Latterly, however, doubts had been expressed in some quarters and so, in order to clear them and to avert possible differences of opinion in future, this amendment had been proposed. The appointment of Chief Officers to town municipalities involved considerations similar to those applicable to the appointment of Health Officers and Engineers to city municipalities. The field of selection was limited to a few officers in the Health Department and the Government were in a better position than municipal councils to know which particular officer would be most suitable to take up the duties of a Health Officer in a municipal council. It would not be in the interests of a town for the council to appoint a raw man as Health Officer; the council would have to confine its selection to the few tried men already in service. Similarly with regard to selecting men for appointment as Chief Officers to town municipalities, the choice was in practice limited to men in service. The Government could more easily consult other municipalities and ascertain who were all the available competent men and then decide whom exactly to post to a particular place. It would involve a lot of waste of time if the local body

itself had to consult other bodies and secure the services of the officer whom it wanted to appoint. It was in this view that Government had proposed the amendment. The idea at first was to amend only the City Municipalities Regulation; but it had been found subsequently, for the reasons stated above, desirable to similarly amend the Town Municipalities Regulation also.

Referring to Mr. Bhashyam Aiyangar's remark that the Government were anxious to thrust unwanted men in their service upon unwilling municipal councils and save their pay, **Mr. MADHAVA RAU** observed that it was really unfortunate that a responsible member of the House should have thought it fit to make a remark of that kind. Perhaps that member had lost sight of the fact, when he made that statement, that a Government dealing in crores of rupees, would surely not grudge the salaries of its own officers, and that Government would never be prepared to allow municipal councils to waste their funds on unnecessary appointments. The member would have been fair to the Government if he had recognised that they were interested in the finances of municipalities as much as the municipalities themselves were.

An apprehension had been expressed by more than one member that if the Chief Officers were appointed by the Government, they might not carry out loyally the instructions of the non-official Presidents and the resolutions of the municipal councils. There was no reason to suppose that such a thing would ever occur. No doubt, the wording of the statement of general principles, in one place, might possibly give the impression that Government were going to control the Chief Officers in all matters, and the Kannada version of the statement on this point was perhaps even less happy. But he would assure the House that whatever control the Government proposed to exercise would be confined only to recruitment and service conditions. No other kind of control was contemplated so that the municipal councils would continue to have over Chief Officers whatever control they had at present. What the amendment sought to provide for was merely the power of transferring Chief Officers from one municipal council to another or from a department to a municipal council. This, the municipal councils themselves would find, would surely help them very much. In this connection he informed the Assembly that a particular municipal council which was at first opposed to a proposal from the Deputy Commissioner that a Chief Officer be appointed, subsequently passed a resolution of its own accord asking for such an appointment when it was explained to the council that such a step would help the work of the council very materially. He also added that, in spite of the proposed amendment, the Government would, as far as possible, consult municipal councils before deciding in each case whether a Chief Officer was necessary or not.

Referring to the alleged prestige attached to the power of appointment, he would ask whether even the highest officers of Government could appoint their own subordinates. There was a common agency for the recruitment of officials, and the higher officers of Government had to take work from whichever subordinates were given to them. Their prestige had not suffered for this reason. Similarly, it would be wrong for the municipal councils to think that the appointment of Chief Officers by the Government would affect the prestige of the councils. He would only say, in conclusion, that the proposed measure was one calculated to do good to all concerned. There was no idea, as stated already, of curtailing the powers or privileges of municipal councils. In the light of this explanation, he hoped that the House would accept the general principles of the measure.

The general principles of the bill were thereupon put to vote and lost.

IV. General Principles of the Bill to amend the Mysore City Municipalities Regulation.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatanaranappa) explained the general principles of the bill as follows:—

The present legal position regarding

the appointment and control of Chief Officers, Health Officers and Engineers in city municipalities is not altogether satisfactory. In practice, Health Officers and Engineers are selected by Government and appointed as such generally in consultation with the city municipal councils. The city municipal councils have, however been contending that, under Sections 233 (1) and 234 (1) of the City Municipalities Regulation, the power to select and appoint these officers is vested in them, subject to the sanction of Government. In the interests of efficiency, it is considered that these important appointments should be under the control of the Government and that they should be filled by posting officers from the regular cadre of the departments concerned. The new sections enable the Government to take power to appoint and control the Chief Officer, the Health Officer and the Engineer in the case of any city municipality.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA spoke against the amending measure. The city municipalities were anxious to appoint their own Health Officers and Municipal Engineers. But the measure proposed to vest the power of making those appointments exclusively in the hands of the Government. This meant that the only real power so far enjoyed by the city municipal councils would be definitely withdrawn in future. The existing law gave power to city municipal councils to make the appointments themselves. At any rate, this was the contention of the municipal councils as the wording used was "may appoint." In spite of it, the Government were making the appointments and the councils were resenting this action on the part of the Government. If the proposed measure became law, the councils would once for all lose the power of making those appointments. This was a position to which the city municipal councils could not agree.

Mr. T. MARIYAPPA opposed the measure for reasons similar to those advanced by him in connection with the proposed amendment of the Town Municipalities Regulation.

Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO also opposed the measure. He said that while at present the city municipal councils had the limited power of appointing one of the persons named by the Government, in future they would not have even that power.

The PRESIDENT observed that Government would be only too glad to recommend a panel to the municipal councils if such procedure were found workable. But as had already been explained by the Second Member of Council in connection with the previous bill, it was not a practicable proposal. Because, the cadres of Health Officers and Municipal Engineers were necessarily small and there was not, at any given time, a sufficiently wide field of choice before the municipal councils.

Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO said that he was aware of the practical difficulties. At the same time he was particular that city municipal councils should be consulted beforehand instead of the Government themselves making the appointments straightaway.

The PRESIDENT remarked that no special advantage would be gained by mere consultation so long as it was agreed that a selection was necessarily to be made out of a few available men.

The SECOND MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau) added that even when the Government themselves made the appointments, they were almost invariably consulting the Commissioner and the President, and that this virtually amounted to consulting the council itself.

Messrs. C. N. NARASINGA RAO and T. MARIYAPPA did not subscribe to this view.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU replied that opinions of the Commissioner and the President of the municipal council had to be taken as reflecting those of the council itself.

Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO feared that in case the measure was passed by the House, the Government might post very highly paid officers for work under the councils and the councils might find themselves unable to meet the salaries of such officers.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU replied that in such cases the views and wishes of

the municipal councils would certainly be listened to by the Government. But it would be wrong to think that a municipal council was slighted so long as its Commissioner or President or both were consulted by the Government. Government were not averse to consulting the councils themselves, but in actual practice such procedure would involve a delay of several months at each stage. If the proposed amendment was not accepted, and the councils insisted on appointing officers of their own, they would soon find their executive officers almost irremovable—a position which no one desired. On the other hand, if the amendment was passed, the technical departments of Government would serve as reservoirs for the recruitment of technically qualified officers for work under the municipal councils.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR did not understand how the departments of Government could serve as reservoirs when, as the Government themselves had said, the number of officers available for appointment was so small. He personally thought that by leaving the municipal councils free to make their own appointments, Government would be enabling them to select the best qualified man from among a large number of technically qualified persons including some who might be unemployed at any given time.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that the recruitment of inexperienced persons, however highly qualified, would ultimately be found to be highly detrimental to the interests of the municipalities themselves.

Mr. K. T. BHASHYAM AIYANGAR replied that it could also be argued that even experienced officers sometimes made calamitous mistakes. Of course, the municipal councils would generally not think of appointing inexperienced officers and might be expected always to agree to suggestions well-meant. In other words, if only the Government cared to formally consult the municipal councils before particular officers were posted for work under them, the councils would try their best to agree to any arrangements suggested. And if in any case a council did not accept the proposals of Government, the latter were quite able to bring round the former to their own way of thinking, so that the Government need have nothing to fear from a previous consultation. In fact, consultation would be the surest way of securing the hearty cooperation from the councils. The Government should also remember that municipal councillors after all were elected representatives of the people, doing their work, however humble, in an honorary capacity. Honorary workers naturally valued their own prestige very much without which, in their opinion, nothing was worth doing.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU said that, as had already been explained in connection with the previous bill, the Government had no intention whatever to depart from the existing practice. The measure under discussion had been proposed merely with the object of obviating the scope for differences of opinion which existed in certain quarters at present. He quite sympathised with the view expressed by Mr. Bhashyam Aiyangar that prestige loomed large in the eyes of non-official workers. At the same time the speaker would ask honorary workers to remember that their prestige must always be consistent with the efficient and smooth working of the institutions in which they worked.

With regard to the question of consulting municipal councils, he said that it would not be possible for the Government to consult the municipal council as a body whenever an appointment was considered necessary. Consultation in all such cases would lead to needless correspondence and waste of time. If the councils had any special considerations to put forward, it was quite easy for them to make their views known to Government at any time. Even those who were opposed to the measure must be aware that the Government were as much interested in the two cities as the councils themselves were, and that in selecting Health Officers and Municipal Engineers the best interests of the cities would be the only consideration.

As regards the alleged inability of municipal councils to bear the expenditure on account of the salaries of their Health and Engineer officers, it was quite competent for the councils to bring their difficulties, if any, to the notice of the Government. As a matter of fact, however, the salaries of these officers were quite moderate, and well within the resources of the city municipalities to pay. With this explanation and assurance, he hoped that the House would find its way to accept the general principles of the measure under discussion.

The general principles of the bill were thereupon put to vote and lost.

V. General Principles of the Bill to amend Section 51 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1911.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatesa Iyengar) explained the general principles of the bill as follows :—

One of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Labour in India was to the effect that, in the case of industrial workers in receipt of wages less than Rs. 100 per month, arrest and imprisonment for debt should be abolished, except where the debtor has been proved to be both able and unwilling to pay. Action was taken in British India on the basis of this recommendation to protect all honest debtors of all classes from detention in civil prison, and confining such detention to debtors proved to be recalcitrant or fraudulent, by amending Section 51 of the Civil Procedure Code.

It is now proposed to amend Section 51 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1911, on the lines of Act XXI of 1936 of the Indian Legislature. The bill provides that no order for execution by detention in prison shall be issued unless the debtor has been given an opportunity of showing cause why he should not be committed to prison, and the court is satisfied that the debtor is likely to leave the local limits of the jurisdiction of the court, or has fraudently disposed of his property or that he is able to pay the amount of the decree otherwise than from protected assets. The bill applies to all judgment-debtors.

The general principles of the bill were put to vote and passed unanimously.

VI. General Principles of the Bills to amend the City Municipalities and the Town Municipalities Regulations.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatanaranappa) explained the general principles of the bills as follows :—

One of the resolutions passed at the Local Self-Government Conference of 1923 related to the question of effecting of periodical transfers of employees of local bodies with a view to the improvement of the morale of the officials working under the municipalities and the local boards. This question was also considered at length at the Dasara Session of the Representative Assembly in 1924. Government accepted the recommendations made at the Local-Self Government Conference and at the Representative Assembly and issued orders in G. O. No. L. 6129-6192—Ml. 145-24-12, dated 19th February 1925, directing, among other things, that, as a general rule, only officials in Government service be employed by all local bodies for all non-gazetted executive and clerical appointments under them and that transfers should be effected once in three years. The above order was not, however, given effect to in the case of several local bodies as in most cases officials had been directly recruited by those bodies with the result that the periodical transfers were not effected as contemplated in the Government Order referred to above and officials were treated as permanent in the establishments to which they had been recruited. Government therefore directed in G. O. No. L. 2903-28 – Ml. 172-33-25, dated 23rd October 1935, that the initiative for effecting the periodical transfers of the officials of local bodies should be taken by the Deputy Commissioners of Districts concerned, who should arrange for the transfers of the officials of the local bodies once in three years in consultation with the local bodies concerned.

During the discussions at the Legislative Council in December 1935, it was pointed out that full effect had not been given effect to the Government Order of 23rd October 1935 as there was no central authority who could take the initiative for the transfers of the officials, review the position and effect transfers whenever necessary, and the desirability of entrusting the control of this to a single officer was suggested. Government accepted the proposal and issued orders in Government Order No. L. 5997-6017—Ml. 139-35-11, dated 7th February 1936, directing that the Revenue Commissioner shall be the initiating authority in regard to transfers of officials of certain grades in local bodies.

Though transfers are now being effected in accordance with the above orders, it has been contended by the Bangalore City Municipality that the order referred to above is not in consonance with the provisions of the City Municipalities Regulation, etc., and that the initiative for the transfer of municipal officials should be with the municipal council.

There is at present no provision either in the City or in the Town Municipalities Regulations for the transfer of officials from one municipality to another or to a District Board or to a Government Department. In the Madras Presidency, it is seen that provisions exist in the Madras District Municipalities Act and the Madras Local Boards Act, giving power to the Local Government to transfer the officials of the local bodies.

Government consider that there should be a similar enabling provision in the City and the Town Municipalities Regulations giving power to Government to transfer the employees of all local bodies in the interests of efficiency and to delegate such powers in the case of the city municipalities to any officer of Government. The proposed new section is intended to enable the Government to exercise this power.

The general principles of the bill were put to vote and passed unanimously.

VII. General Principles of the Bill to amend the Sugar (Excise Duty) Regulation, II of 1934.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. M. Venkatanaranappa) explained the general principles of the bill as follows :—

The excise duty on sugar (other than *Khandsari* and *Palmyra* Sugar) both in British India and in Mysore was one rupee and five annas per cwt. The duty was raised to two rupees in British India with effect from 28th February 1937. The duty in Mysore had to be similarly raised, to avoid the Government of India levying an import duty equal to the difference on the Mysore Sugar exported to British India as it would have been a serious hindrance to the free movement of sugar from the Mysore State. An Emergency Regulation was therefore passed here on 28th February 1937 raising the duty from one rupee and five annas to two rupees per cwt.

Section 3 of the Indian Finance Act, 1937, contains a provision for raising the duty on *Khandsari* sugar from ten annas to one rupee and five annas.

As the Emergency Regulation expires on 28th August 1937 and as the enhanced duty will have to be in force after that date also, this bill is designed to empower Government to levy the duty at the revised rates.

The general principles of the bill were put to vote and passed.

The House then adjourned for lunch and reassembled at 3-30 p.m.

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET.

In opening the discussion on the budget, Mr. C. N. NARASINGA RAO congratulated the Government on presenting what appeared to him to be the first surplus budget since 1931. As the Dewan-President himself had observed in his speech, the State's revenue showed an increase of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs during the last decade. The excess of expenditure over the revenues during the past was something like Rs. 60 lakhs and it was a matter for satisfaction that the revised budget for the current year was expected to show a surplus of

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Rs. 1·25 lakhs. But this position, the member reminded the House, was reached obviously by drawing upon the reserves. Such withdrawals in the past must have amounted to about one crore of rupees which, in his opinion, was anything but commendable. Secondly, he regretted to have to remark that, having freely drawn from the reserves, the Government had not taken care to put the funds so withdrawn to the best possible use in a majority of cases.

The member expressed his appreciation of certain good features noticeable in the new budget, such as an increase of Rs. 10 lakhs under land revenue, and Rs. 15 lakhs under income-tax as compared with the figures for 1930. He was also glad that the revenue under Excise was going to be less. But he was sorry that the surplus revenue of the Assigned Tract had gone down considerably. This, he thought, was mainly due to the fact that the State had no manner of control over the expenditure incurred by the Civil and Military Station authorities. In view of the impending retrocession, it looked to him as though they were unnecessarily increasing both establishments and salaries so that the State also might continue to pay them in future. The State should explore the possibilities of realising all the surplus due from this source.

Reviewing the figures relating to the Department of Industries and Commerce, he remarked that considering the very large investments made by Government on industrial concerns, the return was infinitely small.

Even though the Excise revenue was showing a steady fall in recent years, the expenditure had been kept up on the same level. It was very desirable to curtail the expenditure by retrenchments under establishment, etc., since excise revenue for each succeeding year was bound to get reduced and ultimately disappear.

The provision made for Education was Rs. 52,26,000 and this was less by Rs. 1,44,000 as compared to 1930. The demand for education was greater now than ever and as such the grant had necessarily to be enhanced.

Economic Development was an important item of expenditure in the past, but this item had altogether disappeared from the budget under discussion. A provision of Rs. 1,04,000 had been made in 1930 and the speaker pleaded that at least the same provision be made in the new budget.

The provision for Agriculture was less by Rs. 4 lakhs and this was a thing which was bound to dissatisfy the general tax-payer. As regards medical aid, a sum of Rs. 2 lakhs over and above the level of 1930 had no doubt been provided, but even with it, the allotment was too inadequate to meet the demands for medical relief in all parts of the State. Formerly, the Scientific Departments were in receipt of liberal grants but these had dwindled to nothing in recent years. The allotment for Irrigation should also not have been reduced from Rs. 12,60,000 to Rs. 11,24,000. It was not well for the future interests of the State that such nation-building departments were starved.

Referring to the question of Subsidy, he observed that it was the one item of expenditure which was a steady drain on the resources of the State, and that the people longed for the day when the efforts of the Dewan to have it abolished would be crowned with success.

The speaker complimented the Dewan on the progressive and enterprising policy pursued by the Government in industrial and commercial matters. At the same time, he cautioned the Government to effectively check the growth of mushroom companies which were ever on the increase and were trading upon the reputation of Mysore. Otherwise, the result of working of these companies was bound to react upon the Government-managed concerns.

MR. NARASINGA RAO pointed out that the percentage of failures in the middle school examination was steadily increasing from year to year. The system of subjecting children of tender age to the ordeal of a public examination was an anachronism, and the earlier it was abolished the better it would be for the future of the children. It had been condemned in all western countries and

even the Madras and Bombay Presidencies had done away with it long ago. He therefore urged for its immediate abolition in Mysore also so that the fear of examination might be removed once for all from the minds of young children.

As regards the provision of Rs. 20,000 made for the Scout Movement, the member drew attention to the slur cast on the character of Indians recently by Lord Baden-Powell, the founder of the movement, and remarked that the Scout Movement did not deserve patronage in India any longer. After all, the movement as it was practised at present was a foreign institution and not best suited to the genius and outlook of patriotic Indians. And the attitude of the Chief Scout had caused the greatest amount of resentment, disgust and disappointment in the minds of Indians. In this view, he thought that there was a good case for all Indians to dissociate themselves from it and to reorganise the movement on a thoroughly national basis.

He next referred to the Police Department and said that the creation of a special cadre for Anglo-Indians was a reform which was most revolting to the subjects of the State. Even as a measure of administrative reform, it was far from desirable. At any rate, in Mysore which was a Model Indian State, and in the twentieth century there could be no justification whatever to any special preferences on account of colour, creed or accident of birth. If at all, there could be a special class of officials or a special cadre of appointments carrying higher salaries in view of special responsibility, but even here appointments ought not to proceed on the colour basis.

While commending the policy of deputing officers to foreign countries for higher technical training, he criticised the practice of posting trained officers to non-technical departments and non-technical men to preside over technical departments like the Agricultural Department, and the Sanitary Engineering Bureau, etc. Other Governments had given up such practice as being prejudicial to best interests and the Government of Mysore would do well to profit by the experience of others.

In regard to the Medical Department, he regretted that all the good medical men were being transferred from Bangalore to Mysore. Bangalore had some of the best hospitals in India and if the reputation of these institutions was to be kept up, it was necessary to retain therein the best available doctors.

Continuing, the speaker referred to a recent Government Order levying heavy rates of fees for various kinds of operations, both major and minor, performed in the hospitals. The order was working as a hardship on Mysoreans who were obliged to speak out the truth about their income, while outsiders had no such obligation. Seeing that the hospitals were being run with the general tax-payer's money, the prescription of a prohibitive scale of fees was thoroughly unjustifiable. This order had scared away many local people from deriving the benefit of hospitals and led to tragic results in several cases since many poor men and women were led in their ignorance and despair to seek treatment at the hands of any one calling himself a medical man. Surely, this could not have been a state of affairs which the large number of philanthropists and benefactors who had given princely donations for the hospitals wanted to encourage or tolerate. Thanks to the persuasive powers of the Dewan, generous donations would be forthcoming in future also, and in this view there was no need for the Government to try to make money in the manner provided for in the Government Order under reference. The Government should remember that they would be held morally responsible for all the untoward consequences following thousands of poor men having to place themselves in the hands of irresponsible or unqualified persons on account of their inability to pay the rates levied in the Government hospitals. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, he said that it was absolutely necessary for doing away with the heavy rates recently levied.

As regards the Bangalore City Municipality, the Government had

promised to bear half the cost of its drainage scheme and on the strength of that assurance, an estimate costing Rs. 20 lakhs was got prepared and the Government were also pleased to advance a loan at a reasonable rate of interest. But it was seen that for paying the Government's share of the cost, the budget before the House contained a provision of only Rs. 30,000. The member appealed to the Government to be generous enough to enhance the provision so as to be able to meet their full share of the cost of the scheme. In view of its slender finances, the Municipality had thought of levying a profession tax on its citizens, even though these were not in a position to bear any fresh burden, but the Government knew how unpopular this proposal was. The Government were deriving an indirect revenue of about Rs. 20 lakhs from the city which thus had a claim on the State for special grants like the one under reference.

While on this question, the speaker reminded the Government with reference to their attitude towards local self-government institutions generally, that the legislative policy of the Government, as evidenced by the bills which the House had discussed just that morning, was not appreciated by the non-official section of the public. He prayed that the Dewan, who had already earned a reputation by developing a new sense of beauty and hope in the State, should also strive to become a builder of a great State, broad-based on the hearty support of a contented people and broad-based too on a system of Responsible Government.

Mr. NARASINGA RAO next suggested the extension of the boundaries of the Bangalore City without any delay. For want of sufficient scope for expansion, vacant sites in the city had appreciated in value to an almost ruinous extent and exploiters were buying up all available agricultural lands in the vicinity of the city and converting them into house sites, thereby depriving the Government of their legitimate dues. It was time that the Government stepped in and took up the available lands by acquiring them not merely with a view to secure the revenue for themselves but also for providing sites and improved facilities for the large number of poor men who were powerless to secure them at present. Encroachments of lands were also taking place every day as the city had not been surveyed properly and nobody could distinguish between Government and private land. It was necessary for Government to get all the lands in and around the city surveyed.

Proceeding, the member stated that many of the poor men visiting the Thippagondanahalli Reservoir could not afford to stay in the first class travellers' bungalow which Government had constructed at the place. The speaker understood that some of the smaller bungalows at the place were long remaining vacant and were even proposed to be sold away. He appealed to Government to convert some of the bungalows on the western bank into second or third class travellers' bungalows so that the poorer classes of visitors to the reservoir might avail themselves of them.

The member concluded with the hope that the surplus budget before the House marked the dawn of an era of surplus budgets, resulting in increased prosperity to the State and added happiness to the people at large.

Mr. H. K. MADIAH, who spoke next, put in a strong plea for enhancing the grant to the Agricultural Department from Rs. 10,57,000 to at least Rs. 12 lakhs as a very competent officer had been posted to guide that department and would need sufficient funds for carrying out all his schemes. He also pleaded for the opening of many more Veterinary Dispensaries in rural parts. He urged that the grant for drinking water wells in rural areas should be increased from Rs. 1 75 lakhs to Rs. 2½ lakhs. He prayed for a suitable increase in the grant for village improvements so as to make the villages attractive enough for all classes of people.

Referring to the Co-operative movement, he paid a glowing tribute to the services rendered by Mr. M. G. Mehkri, the erstwhile Registrar, and expressed

the hope that the new Registrar would strive to follow the foot-steps of his predecessor, and improve the efficiency of the department by closing down all languishing societies and giving all possible help and encouragement to deserving societies.

As regards the Bhadravati Iron Works, he said that in view of the fact that the price of iron had gone up during the year, the profit of Rs. 1½ lakhs earned and credited to the depreciation fund was very inadequate. He was of opinion that unless such big concerns were made to earn larger profits, the industrial progress of the State could not be secured. He was sorry to remark that the bulk of the appointments in this concern were said to have been thrown open to non-Mysoreans, much to the prejudice of subjects of the State, and urged that, as far as possible, appointments should be given only to Mysoreans even without referring to the rules of recruitment.

Proceeding, he urged that, having opened only one High School at Malvalli for the benefit of pupils from all parts of the taluk, the Government ought not to hesitate to place the school on a permanent footing. He requested the Government to take an early decision in this respect and thus set at rest the apprehensions in the minds of the people that any day the school might be closed. It would certainly not be possible for all the boys from the area to go to Bangalore or Mysore. The member also requested that a Munsiff-Magistrate's Court be opened at Malvalli as the litigant public were finding it very difficult to go all the way to Mandya.

He next referred to the increase of *atchkats* under various tanks, which was being allowed without reference to the capacity of the tanks, and appealed to Government to put a stop to such increase.

The member concluded with an expression of gratitude to the present Dewan under whose guidance several irrigational and industrial works were being undertaken, and a prayer that he may continue to be at the helm of affairs of the State for long so that, when the time came for the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of His Highness the Maharaja's beneficent reign, the Silver Jubilee of the Dewan's stewardship might also be celebrated.

Mr. Hosakoppa KRISHNA RAO prefaced his remarks by thanking the Dewan for the encouraging Address presented to the Assembly and in particular for having made a liberal provision for rural reconstruction, for having given Rs. 3 lakhs for drinking water wells and for the assurance that the existing taxes would not be enhanced in future. This was a pronouncement, he said, which was quite in keeping with the eminence of the Dewan who was doing so much for enhancing the reputation of Mysore. He however observed that it would not be enough if taxes were merely not enhanced. It was a well recognised economic principle that for an even progress of a State, taxation should strictly conform to the paying capacity of the tax-payer. On this basis and on the basis of the *per capita* income of Indians, a reduction of the existing burden of taxation in India was called for urgently. That could be brought about only by limiting the normal expenditure of the State to the normal income. For this purpose it would be convenient if extraordinary items of revenue and extraordinary items of expenditure were shown separately from the normal revenue and normal expenditure.

The speaker was glad to find that Government were paying every possible attention to the industrial advancement of the State. It was a pity that in spite of best efforts on the part of the Government to help some of the individual undertakings, these had not yet begun to show adequate returns. And even in regard to other concerns which were showing large profits, he would like to say that Government ought not to count upon such profits as a matter of course, since prices were bound to fluctuate. If therefore such items of revenue were left out of account, the need for restricting the expenditure budget to the limit of normal revenue would appear quite imperative. And in fixing up a scale of expenditure, the

Government should also take up the question of retrenchments more seriously and fully than in the past. In this connection he requested Government to take the Assembly more and more into their confidence and give it some effective voice in regard to the financial policy of the State which, in his opinion, stood in need of a thorough re-examination. It was immaterial to him what the form of the Government in Mysore was so long as real powers were shared by the Government with the people. They had absolute confidence in their illustrious Ruler and their loyalty to the person and throne of His Highness was always unquestioned. The Government must shake off all distrust either of the capacity or the integrity of the people and advise His Highness to immediately grant a further instalment of constitutional reforms in the State.

The speaker next referred to the present unsatisfactory financial position of local bodies and urged that District Boards be permitted to utilise their railway cess funds for providing the necessary amenities in the villages, such as grants for well works, etc.

In congratulating the Government on being able to present a surplus budget, **Mr. S. C. MALLIAH** brought to notice certain difficulties experienced by the raiyats in connection with the collection of land revenue during the year. In the Irwin Canal area, the authorities were withholding moneys payable to the raiyats on account of sugar-cane supplied to the Sugar Factory and adjusting the same towards land revenue due. This arrangement was causing great inconvenience to the people especially when the amounts due to them were not more than the assessment which they had to pay, and should be discouraged. He would however not object to the practice continuing in case the raiyats themselves agreed to such adjustments being effected.

The additional allotment of Rs. 10,000 for primary education was very inadequate. In many villages, people were anxious to have schools and in some cases even buildings were ready. Since the Government had been levying the education cess for several years past, it was their duty to provide at least one school in each hobli and to make provision in the budget to the extent necessary for the purpose. Even in places in which schools had been opened, the accommodation and staff were quite inadequate and necessary provision should be made for increasing the same.

Mr. MALLIAH stated that the system of deputing teachers from one school to another when fresh teachers could not be appointed was causing inconvenience. It might be possible for deputed teachers to do some good work during vacations, but as soon as they were withdrawn and posted to their permanent places without substitutes being given for the understaffed schools, the work in such cases could not but be dislocated. The member therefore requested that the minimum staff necessary for the regular working of every school should be appointed permanently. There was a departmental circular prohibiting admission of pupils from English Middle Schools to the Upper Primary Schools. In the former schools, owing to the limited number of seats, admission was not easy to secure and if in the latter schools also they were not admitted, considerable inconvenience was bound to be caused to students in rural parts. He therefore requested that the circular be withdrawn.

The member expressed his grateful thanks to the Government for establishing more and more of model villages. He wished that a more intensive programme of establishing model villages be undertaken every year and requested that provision on an adequate scale be made for the purpose.

As regards the Bhadravati Iron Works, he was reminded of the assurance which Government had given to the House during the previous year that as a result of the manufacture of steel, larger profits could be expected in the following years, and expressed dissatisfaction that a working profit of only Rs. 1½ lakhs had been anticipated for the next year, and that even this

had been proposed to be charged off to the depreciation account or otherwise used up. The general revenues would in no way be benefited thereby and this had caused considerable anxiety in the minds of the public. He hoped that at least in future years the Works would show substantial profits after making sufficient provision for depreciation.

The need for veterinary dispensaries and breeding bulls was being felt in several villages. The member expressed the grateful thanks of the raiyat population for the steady progress which the Government were securing in these directions. But if the demands from all the rural areas had to be adequately met, much more liberal grants to the Veterinary Department were very necessary.

Malaria was spreading fast in the Irwin Canal area in spite of the attempts made by the Public Health Department to combat it. This was partly due to the fact that the measures of relief afforded by the department were not reaching the affected people in all cases, because the villagers were unable to walk all the way to the dispensaries for securing quinine. The member therefore suggested that arrangements should be made for the free distribution of quinine in all the infected villages.

In conclusion, the member endorsed the hope expressed by one of the previous speakers that during the term of office of the new Registrar, the co-operative movement in the State would receive added fillip.

Mr. MAYI GOWDA represented that minor municipalities were in a very bad condition since a good part of their income was going away as contribution on account of the Government establishments. He requested that Government should relieve them from making the contribution so as to enable them to secure better progress. He also requested that the grant for minor municipalities should be enhanced from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 2 lakhs. He further suggested that the grant for minor municipalities should not as at present be clubbed along with the grant for town municipalities but shown separately. Otherwise he feared that the bulk of the grant might be used up by town municipalities and the minor municipalities might get little or nothing.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH, referring to the grant for extension of medical aid, said that very few local fund dispensaries had been provided for in the budget. People everywhere were clamouring for more and more hospitals and the need for maternity hospitals particularly was being felt in all places. For meeting these demands on an adequate scale, he prayed that the grant should be substantially increased.

In regard to Education, he suggested that the additional grant of Rs. 42,000 might be increased to at least Rs. 50,000 so as to provide additional accommodation in the High Schools at Hassan and Hole-Narsipur for which there was keen demand.

For rural reconstruction, a sum of Rs. 1·15 lakhs had been provided in the new budget. But much of it would go to meet travelling allowances and establishment charges and out of the remainder each panchayet might get about Rs. 10 at the most Ten years earlier, the Dewan had acknowledged the need for every village to have a drinking water well, a school, a dispensary, a co-operative society, etc. Yet, thousands of villages still awaited the fulfilment of the hopes raised by the Dewan's declaration. He hoped that Government would do everything they could to improve the conditions in the villages, providing funds to the extent necessary for achieving this end.

The Assembly rose for the day at 5 p.m. to meet again at 12 of the clock the following day.

THIRD DAY.

Wednesday, 16th June 1937.

The House reassembled at the Jagan Mohan Palace Pavilion on Wednesday, 16th June 1937, at 12 of the clock, Mr. President (*Amin-ul-Mulk* Sir Mirza M. Ismail, K.C.I.E., O.B.E., Dewan) in the Chair.